



**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, REGION 2**

June 28, 2019

**BY ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Robert Law, Ph.D.  
de maximis, inc.  
186 Center Street, Suite 290  
Clinton, New Jersey 08809

Re: Lower Passaic River Study Area - Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment – Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (Agreement) CERCLA Docket No. 02-2007-2009

Dear Dr. Law:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Cooperating Parties Group's (CPG) May 2018 Final Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment (BERA) prepared for the Lower Passaic River Study Area (LPRSA). In accordance with Section X, Paragraph 44(a) of the Agreement, EPA hereby approves the CPG's May 2018 Final BERA for the LPRSA.

In consideration of Section IX, Paragraph 37(f), EPA evaluated the BERA against the decision criteria outlined in the Peer Review Handbook and concluded that a peer review of the BERA is not necessary. Please see the enclosed memorandum which outlines EPA's decision based on EPA's Peer Review Handbook.

In accordance with Section XXVIII of the Agreement, EPA may ask for hard copies of the final BERA for inclusion in the information repositories established for the LPRSA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diane Salkie".

Diane Salkie, Remedial Project Manager  
Lower Passaic River Study Area RI/FS

Cc: Zizila, F. (EPA)  
Sivak, M. (EPA)  
Hyatt, B. (CPG)  
Potter, W. (CPG)